

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application.

The Office Action, however, tentatively rejected all claims 1-16 and 19-28. Specifically, claims 1-16 and 19-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regard as the invention. Claims 1-16 and 19-28 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by Hsu et al (U.S. 2005/0108101).

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in light of the remarks contained below.

With regard to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Applicant has amended claims 1, 9, 19, and 26 to address and overcome these rejections.

Fundamental Distinction between Hsu and Claimed Embodiments

With regard to the substantive (prior art-based) rejections, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections for reasons that will be specifically addressed in following paragraphs. However, before addressing the details of specific rejections, Applicant notes that there are fundamental differences between the disclosure of the citation and that of the claimed embodiments.

The claimed embodiments are generally directed to a customer quotation system and method providing product price information to customers, the system and method comprises creating a plurality of product data tables from a plurality of original data tables, wherein the product data tables comprise process technology data and product

quote data, integrating and converting the product data tables to a customer requirement table, and obtaining the price of the product, based on a sum of quotes for the process technologies corresponding to the product, from the customer requirement table.

Relatively, according to the citation, Hsu discloses a computer-implemented method and system for linking a semiconductor product manufacturing facility order with a quotation, comprising receiving the quotation including at least a first product and its quote amount; storing the quote amount associated with the first product, receiving the product manufacturing facility order that identifies at least the first product and desired quantity, and calculating an order price associated with the first product by accessing the stored quote amount associated with the first product, and determining the order price based on the quote amount associated with the first product and the desired quantity identified in the product manufacturing facility order.

As the Examiner stated, the citation defines filed names and attributes for a quotation header table, a quotation item table, and a product master table which define a plurality of original tables. From the data in these tables, a customized view table is created which defines a product data table, comprising process technology data (service flow) and product quote data (total prices). The product data table is the basis for a graphical interface displayed table, which becomes the customer requirement table, in which prices for each product name are listed. Thus, the total price charged to a customer is inherently the sum of individual prices charged for the individual products listed in the table.

The claimed embodiments define similar product tables than that of the citation to generate a customer requirement table but refers to different technology data than that of the citation. In an embodiment of the invention, various process technologies are involved when a semiconductor process is performed. The claimed embodiments mainly concern the relationships between the products (product name), the service flows, the product classes, and the technological levels for different process technologies and generates a customer requirement table according to process technology table, the product quote header table, and the product quote item table. Thus, applied process technology data, process technologies, and the detailed processing for a customer quotation system and method of the claimed embodiments are not equivalent.

Thus, the claimed embodiments define over the features of the Hsu citation and should be allowable.

Rejections of Independent Claims 1, 9, 19, 27, and 28

The Office Action rejected all claims as allegedly anticipated by Hsu. These rejections have been rendered moot by Applicant's amendments to each of claims 1, 9, 19, 27, and 28. Notwithstanding, Applicant sets forth the following additional distinguishing remarks.

1. A customer quotation system providing product price information to customers, comprising:

a data processing module configured to create a plurality of product data tables from a plurality of original data tables, wherein the product data tables comprise at least process technology data and product quote data, ***the data processing module further being configured to integrate and convert the product data tables to a customer requirement table***, the data processing module further being

configured to obtain a price of a product based on a sum of quotes for process technologies corresponding to a product from the customer requirement table, ***wherein the process technology data relates to semiconductor products and further comprises at least one specified process technology.***

9. A method for providing product price information to customers, the method comprising the steps of:

creating a plurality of product data tables from a plurality of original data tables, wherein the product data tables comprise process technology data and product quote data;

integrating and converting the product data tables to a customer requirement table; and

obtaining the price of the product, based on a sum of quotes for the process technologies corresponding to a product from the customer requirement table, ***wherein the process technology data relates to semiconductor products and further comprises at least one specified process technology.***

19. A storage medium for storing a computer program providing a method for providing product price information to customers, comprising using a computer to perform the steps of:

creating a plurality of product data tables from a plurality of original data tables, wherein the product data tables comprise process technology data and product quote data;

integrating and converting the product data tables to a customer requirement table; and

obtaining the price of the product, based on a sum of quotes for the process technologies corresponding to a product, from the customer requirement table, ***wherein the process technology data relates to semiconductor products and further comprises at least one specified process technology.***

27. A customer quotation system comprising:

logic configured to create product data tables from original data tables;

logic configured to convert the product data tables to a customer requirement table; and

logic configured to calculate a price of a product, the price of the products being based on a sum of quotes for process technologies that correspond to the product, the price of the product being calculated from information in the customer requirement table.

28. A computer-readable medium comprising □

computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to create a product data table from an original data table;

computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to convert the product data table to a customer requirement table; and

computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to calculate a price of a product, the price of the product being based on a sum of quotes for process technologies corresponding to the product, the price of the product being calculated from information in the customer requirement table.

(*Emphasis added.*) Independent claims 1, 9, 19, 27, and 28 patently define over the cited art for at least the reason that the cited art fails to disclose the feature emphasized above.

In rejecting claims 9, 19, 27, and 28, the Office Action merely reference the rejection of claim 1. These remarks, therefore, will address the rejection claim 1. The Office Action rejected claim 1, stating that:

...Paragraphs 0018, 0019, and 0021 define ... a plurality or original tables.

From the data in these tables, a customized view table (paragraph 0022) is created, which defines a product data table. Since the customized view is created for each customer, a plurality of these tables will exist.

As can be readily verified, the Office Action didn't even allege Hsu to teach the claimed features of "***a data processing module configured to create a plurality of product data tables from a plurality of original data tables, ..., the data processing module further being configured to integrate and convert the product data tables to a customer requirement table, ..., wherein the process technology data relates to semiconductor products and further comprises at least one specified process technology.***" For at least this reason, the rejection of claim 1 (and therefore 9, 19, 27, and 28) should be withdrawn. As claims 2-8 depend from claim 1, claims 10-16 depend from claim 9, and claims 20-26 depend from claim 19, the rejections of these claims should be withdrawn for at least the same reasons.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request submit that the foregoing is fully responsive to the election request and that all presently-pending claims be allowed to issue. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding Applicants' response, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with this submission. If, however, any fee is believed to be due, you are hereby authorized to charge any such fee to deposit account No. 20-0778.

Respectfully submitted,

/Daniel R. McClure/

Daniel R. McClure
Registration No. 38,962

THOMAS, KAYDEN, HORSTEMEYER & RISLEY, L.L.P.
Suite 1750
100 Galleria Parkway N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30339
(770) 933-9500